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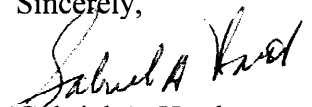
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US Department of Transportation
Room Plaza 401
400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590-0001

Re: Docket No. FAA-2000-8490, Reduced Vertical Separation Minimum

The Air Traffic Control Association supports adding the New York Flight Information Region (FIR) portion of the West Atlantic Route System (WATRS) to the airspace where Reduced Vertical Separation Minimum may be applied. In addition, we support the requirement for aircraft equipped with Traffic Alert and Collision Avoidance System (TCAS) to incorporate a version of TCAS that is compatible with RVSM operations.

Action must be taken to meet the greatly increased traffic loads on the North Atlantic route system or serious delays and economic penalties will result. This proposed rule offers the prospect of greater availability of the most time and fuel efficient tracks and route as well as increased capacity in the North Atlantic route system.

Sincerely,


Gabriel A. Hartl
President

